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Littlehampton Urban District

HEALTH
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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1958

BY


FRANK COCKCROFT
M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LONDON

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LITTLEHAMPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Manor House,
Littlehampton.
May, 1959.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1958.

There are no very significant changes in the Vital Statistics of the town. There was a fall in the Birth Rate and a very slight rise in the Death Rate. Births exceeded deaths by 36. The estimated population increased by 80. There were, therefore, 44 more immigrants to the town than emigrants.

Although the cancer death rate fell slightly, this disease was second only to heart disease as a cause of death. Treatment of early diagnosed cancer has greatly improved in recent years and nobody should keep secret any symptom or sign which may be caused by cancer. Many forms are now cured if treated early.

There is still much to learn about heart disease, but environmental factors may well play a part in its causation, and I include worry and anxiety amongst these.

At the present time there are no large users of radioactive isotopes in the vicinity of Littlehampton and the town has no radiation hazards at present.

It will be seen from the Report that some unfit houses were demolished or closed. Whilst the town has not the problem of some industrial areas, there are many people living in accommodation which lacks many amenities provided in new houses. Quite a number of people are paying high rents for unsatisfactory living conditions.

The lack of enough Council housing accommodation is still present and this is also shown by the fact that at the largest caravan site in the town many are used as permanent residences. I consider caravans most unsuitable permanent living units when there are small children or elderly people.

The town is well provided with recreational facilities, not only in playing fields, but having a large Green in addition to the beach. The latter did not suffer from any appreciable nuisance from beach flies during the year.

I should like to thank all the Officers who have provided me with information required for compiling this Report.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK COCKCROFT,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Littlehampton Urban District Council.

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres), 2,915.

Resident Population (1958), estimated by Registrar General, 15,050.

Population (1951) Census, 13,948.

Rateable Value (1958), £265,797.

Sum represented by 1d. Rate, £1,053.

No. of inhabited houses end of 1958 according to Rate Book, 4,741.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births	TOTAL	M.	F.	
Legitimate	231	118	113	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 16·1. Corrected Rate, 16·7.
Illegitimate	11	7	4	
Stillbirths ...	6	5	1	—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 24·2.
Deaths	206	96	110	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 13·7. Corrected Rate, 11·9.

Infant deaths, 6.

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total 24·8.

“ “ “ “ “ “ “ —legitimate 25·9.

“ “ “ “ “ “ “ —illegitimate 0·0.

Neo Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births, 20·7.
(first four weeks).

Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births, 4·5 per cent.

Maternal deaths (including abortion), Nil.

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births, Nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 38.

Comparative Statistics, 1958

	England and Wales	West Sussex Urban	West Sussex Rural	Littlehampton UD.
Birth Rate	16·4	15·4	13·1	16·1
Death Rate	11·7	14·2	13·1	13·7
Infantile Death Rate .	22·5	17·4	19·1	24·8
Pulmonary Tuberculosis				
Death Rate	0·09	0·07	0·08	0·07
Cancer Death Rate ...	2·1	2·7	2·4	2·5
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ...	0·43	0·0	0·49	0·0

Comparative Statistics, 1901—1958

	1901	1910	1920	1925	1935	1945	1955	1958
Population	7,363	8,376	8,593	9,020	10,178	10,890	14,760	15,050
Birth Rate	20·9	19·6	20·1	14·8	13·2	19·3	15·9	16·1
Death Rate	13·7	12·2	11·7	11·3	12·1	17·5	11·8	13·7
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	143	81	52	59	63	33	21	24·8
No. Inhabited Houses	1,504	1,806	1,806	1,785	3,308	3,480	4,264	4,741
Average No. of persons per house	4·9	4·6	4·7	5·1	3·1	3·1	3·5	3·2

DEATHS, AGE GROUPS—1958

AGE.					DEATHS.		AGE.					DEATHS.			
					M.	F.						M.	F.		
Under 1 year					...	2	4	35—44 years					...	2	1
1—2 years					...	1	—	45—54					..	5	2
3—4					—	55—59					..	8	2
5—9					—	60—64					..	10	10
10—14					—	65—69					..	15	9
15—19					—	70—79					..	28	38
20—24					1	80—89					..	21	31
25—34					—	90—99					..	3	12
								100 years and over					...	—	1

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1958

	Male.	Female.	Total. Male & Female.
Total: All causes	96	110	206
Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	6	0	6
Other forms of Cancer	16	16	32
Heart Disease	25	28	53
Vascular lesions of Nervous System	8	20	28
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	8	10	18

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

COUNCILLOR MISS GRIFFIN.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :

FRANK COCKCROFT, M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector :

MR. J. L. MCGARRY, C.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for the Worthing Rural District and Assistant County Medical Officer.

The Port Health District work is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

(a) Nursing.

Five General District Nurses, 2 Midwives, and 2 Health Visitors are employed in the area. Lists showing their names and addresses may be seen at County Libraries, Town Halls or Offices of local District Councils, and the Public Health Department, County Hall, Chichester.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare.

Clinics are held as follows : —

Maternity and Child

Welfare ...	... Littlehampton Health Centre.	Mondays and Thursdays 2.30 p.m. (Weekly).
Ante Natal and Post Natal ...	ditto	Tuesdays 10 a.m. (Fortnightly).

The following figures have been provided by the County Medical Officer showing the attendances at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

ANTE NATAL		POST NATAL	
No. of Women attending.	Total attendances.	No. of Women attending.	Total attendances.
206	524	77	89

CHILD WELFARE

No. of Children
attending.
601

Total attendances.
4,605

A Birth Control Clinic is provided by the County Council at Shoreham Health Centre and the Family Planning Association operates one at the Health Centre at Bognor Regis.

(c) School Clinics.

Minor Ailments	...	} Littlehampton Health Centre.
Eye	... ..
Orthopædic	... ..
Physiotherapy	... ..
Speech Therapy	... ..
Ear	Chichester Health Centre.
Dental	Littlehampton and Wick.

Expectant and nursing mothers may also receive free treatment at the Dental Clinics. Dental anæsthetics are given by the Medical Officer when required.

(d) Ambulance Service.

Acting as agents for the County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society operate the Ambulance and Hospital Car Service in the County. Calls for an ambulance are made through the doctor or nurse in attendance on the case, or through the Police or public in case of accidents or other emergencies.

(e) Health Education.

The County Council are responsible for this service, a great amount of which is done by the Health Visitors both in the homes and at the Clinics.

(f) Mental Health.

The County Council is responsible for a domiciliary mental welfare service, but institutional and out-patient treatment is provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

(g) Home Help Service.

This continued to be carried out very efficiently by the Women's Voluntary Service on behalf of the County Council.

Meals are provided and delivered to old people in their homes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, approximately 110 meals a week being delivered at a cost of 1/6d. per meal to the consumer.

Hospital and Specialists' Services

A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Hospital accommodation of a private nature is available in certain circumstances subject to appropriate charges.

Mass Radiography Units are stationed at Portsmouth and Brighton. A new Mobile Unit at Portsmouth will bring the service to this district.

Chest Clinics are held at Worthing Hospital and at Aldingbourne House Sanatorium, both of which are available to the residents of Littlehampton.

Venereal Disease.

Residents may attend Clinics at Worthing Hospital, St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester, the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, or St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth.

General Medical and Dental Services

Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Service Executive Council for West Sussex, 175, Broyle Road, Chichester.

Laboratory Facilities

The following Laboratories are available for the examination of specimens:

The Public Health Laboratory, Brighton.

The Worthing Hospital Laboratory.

The Public Analyst's Laboratory, Lewes.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE

No Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts or Byelaws relating to the public health have come into force during 1958.

PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION

It was not necessary to take any action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1947.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Only nine houses are not supplied via the public mains. The latter convey the water from deep well boring in the Downs at Burpham. There is an ample supply of good quality water but chlorination is carried out as an additional safeguard.

Three samples were sent for chemical analysis, which showed a total hardness of 210 parts per million, and a fluoride content of less than 0.1 parts per million. This means the water is hard, not liable to have plumbo-solvent action, but is very deficient in natural fluoride. The absence of the latter deprives the children of one way of protecting their teeth. This could and should be remedied by fluoridation of the water supply.

Bacteriological samples:—

PUBLIC SUPPLY SYSTEM.	RESULT.
4 before chlorination.	Satisfactory.
29 after chlorination.	All except one satisfactory.

The unsatisfactory sample was from a newly laid main (fæcal coli 180+ per 100 c.c.). Before the public consumed water from this main it was recleansed and further samples were satisfactory. "Satisfactory" being less than 1 per 100 c.c. of water.

Private Wells

Six samples were taken and found satisfactory.
Extensions of mains during the year were as follows:—

Horsham Road	...	156 yards.
Cove Road	... ..	234 ..
St. Mary's Close	... ..	33 ..
Clun Road	... ..	40 ..

Drainage and Sewerage

The only extensions of soil or surface water sewers were in new streets.

Untreated sewage discharges through tanks into the river at a point about 80 yards beyond the wooden pier on the eastern bank.

Sanitary Accommodation

All dwelling houses in the district have proper water closets, with the exception of 19 which use pail closets and these are situated at Toddington on nursery land, which part of the district is not connected to the sewer. There are also 66 cesspools, mainly in the Eastern area.

Public Conveniences

Wanton damage makes the Council's work of maintaining public conveniences very difficult. Those at Linden Park Recreation Ground had to be demolished.

The Council maintain public conveniences for ladies and gentlemen at the following places: Near the Council Offices; the Pier; Maltravers Recreation Ground; Norfolk Road; the Mewsbrook; North Street and Worthing Road. In addition, there are male conveniences near the Bridge and off the High Street, and a ladies' convenience in Beach Road. This makes 17 in all, eight ladies' and nine for gentlemen. The Council felt it necessary to remove the Public Convenience sign in the Worthing Road so that these conveniences would be used principally by the children using the Recreation Ground.

There are two unsatisfactory conveniences provided in the Cemetery. These have pail closets.

Apart from being clean and well maintained, a Public Convenience should have adequate facilities for washing and drying the hands.

House Refuse

House refuse is collected weekly by the use of covered lorries, and the refuse is disposed of by tipping on the West side of the River Arun.

Rivers and Streams

Observations are kept on the River Arun, as it passes through the town, to prevent offal and waste materials being thrown into the river.

Swimming Baths

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

Schools

There are seven Primary and Secondary schools in the district, but one school had to operate in two separate premises.

There are also six private schools.

The sanitary arrangements at all the schools are satisfactory.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

During the year 5,623 inspections and visits have been made as follows:—

Infectious diseases and contagious diseases (including Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	98
Nuisances and complaints	...	...	...	...	...	118
Revisits to property under notice	...	...	...	...	...	586
Revisits where work was in progress	...	...	...	...	...	108
Interviews with owners, agents or builders	...	...	...	...	...	341
Drainage inspections	...	...	...	...	...	269

Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	229
Dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	216
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	42
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	109
Movable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	116
Re refuse receptacles and sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	157
Re overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	90
Refreshment rooms, Restaurants, and Cafés	...	...	...	...	...	164
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	8
Food preparation premises	...	...	...	...	...	268
Re urinals	...	...	...	...	...	11
Re swine and animals	...	...	...	...	...	15
Re water supply	...	...	...	...	...	23
Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	212
Smoke or water tests applied to drains	...	...	...	...	...	21
Food storage premises	...	...	...	...	...	10
Re Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	1,823
No. of houses measured and recorded for overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	5
Refuse accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	89
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	126
No. of houses inspected under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	122
Re Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	129
No. of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	75
Visits re state of garden, dustbins and rats	...	...	...	...	...	31

Notices served

Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	1
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	156

Outstanding Notices

At the end of 1958, eight informal notices had not been complied with, but in all cases instructions had been given by the owners to builders.

Complaints

During the year a total of 168 complaints were received and had reference to the following matters:—

Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	77
Vermin and insects	...	...	...	...	...	47
Smells	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dirty condition of house	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fouling of land	...	...	...	...	...	2
Smoke from burning refuse	...	...	...	...	...	1
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	23

Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective stopcock	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective downspout	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective waste pipe	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Sanitary improvements and defects remedied during the year:

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Floors relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Ceilings repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Walls repaired and repointed	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Eaves or downspouting provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Doors provided or repaired, chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Sanitary conveniences repaired or provided with cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
New dustbins and covers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Drains relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Inspection chambers, interceptors and traps provided to drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Sanitary sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sink or bath wastes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Insufficient ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Insufficient light	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Verminous rooms cleansed and bedding destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Overcrowding remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Accumulations of rubbish and manure removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Soil pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Caravans: insanitary sites and providing of W.C.'s, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Food Premises: Drains cleansed and sanitary accommodation repaired, walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—contraventions	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Bakehouses: cleansing, repairs, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924—contraventions	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Factories: Sanitary accommodation improved or repaired, rooms repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Shops Act, 1934—contraventions	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies and milk shops cleansed or repaired and contraventions remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Stagnant water removed from ponds and ditches	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Yards and passageways drained and repaired	10
Overflowing cesspools	12
Urinals, etc., cleansed, repaired, reconstructed or fitted with automatic flushing apparatus	14
Additional water closets	2
Pantries provided and ventilated to the open air ...	3

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

1. INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sec- tions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	49	6	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	64	102	10	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	—	—	—	—
Total	75	151	16	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	5	5	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	2	2	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:—					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	2	2	—	—	—
Other offences	8	8	—	—	—
Total	23	23	—	—	—

There are two Outworkers in the district.

Shops Act, 1950

There are 354 shops in the district and during the year 129 visits have been paid, and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found:—

Damp condition of walls of food room ...	...	...	1
Kitchen in need of cleansing and redecoration ...	...	...	1
W.C.s in need of cleansing ...	...	...	2
Premises in need of cleansing ...	...	...	1
Yard in need of cleansing ...	...	...	3
Accumulations ...	...	...	4
Need for cleansing of drains ...	...	...	1
Defective condition of drains ...	...	...	2
Need for new inspection chamber with interceptors ...	...	...	1

Movable Dwellings

There are five permanent sites for Movable Dwellings in Littlehampton. Four are situated on the West side of the River Arun and are licensed under the Public Health Act for a total of 47 trailer caravans.

The largest site is situated at the North of the district and is licensed for 100 tents and trailers.

All sites are provided with town's water, and water-closets or Elsan-closets.

The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed during the year:—

Need to provide proper soakaway...	...	...	...	13
Sink waste pipe in need of repair ...	...	...	...	16
Stagnant water ...	...	...	...	2

Clean Air Act, 1956

No. of observations made ...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of notices served ...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of nuisances abated ...	...	...	...	...	1

Eradication of Bed-bugs

No houses were found to be infested with bed-bugs.

Section 89, Public Health Act, 1936

All inns, public houses and beer houses, cinemas and places of public entertainment have been inspected during the year. At several of the premises improvements were made to sanitary accommodation, kitchens and washing facilities. Both owners and tenants co-operated in the work.

Public Health Act, 1936—Sections 83, 84 and 85

During the year it was necessary to have 10 verminous rooms cleansed. In one case bedding was removed for destruction.

Disinfection

During the year 75 rooms have been disinfected.

Rag Flock and Other Fillings Act, 1951

No premises have been found where Rag Flock is in use or on sale.

Mosquitoes

No complaints were received in respect of mosquitoes.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

There is one premises licensed under this Act.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Seventy-seven complaints were received and dealt with during the year. In each case visits were paid until the rats or mice were exterminated.

The only major infestation in the district is on land used for tipping on the West Bank of the River Arun. This area receives constant attention. The sewers also receive systematic attention, and inspections are carried out on agricultural land.

A free service is given in respect of private dwelling houses, but charges are made in respect of business premises.

Extermination work is successfully accomplished by the use of Zinc Phosphide, Red Squill, Arsenious poison baits, Warfarin, "Horo Tubes", Antubaits and "Cyanide" fumigation and trapping.

The following tables show statistics in respect of works carried out during 1958.

Type of Property.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (in- cluding Business & Industrial)	Total
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District ...	22	4,468	13	491	4,994
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	(a) 3	68	—	8	79
(b) Survey under the Act...	(b) 12	43	3	10	68
(c) Otherwise	(c) 78	1,048	—	145	1,271
III. Number of properties Major found to be infested by rats Minor	12 1	141 —	— —	16 —	169 1
IV. Number of properties found to be seriously infested by mice .	—	27	—	6	33
V. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority Total treatments carried out ...	13 39	168 523	— —	22 52	203 614
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4:—					
(1) Treatment	—	9	—	—	9
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	17	—	—	17

SECTION D

HOUSING

During the year 12 Council Houses and 42 Private Houses were erected.

At the same time, the Council proceeded with its Slum Clearance Programme and the following properties were dealt with: —
Beaconsfield Road: Two families out of three rehoused.

11, 13, 15, Horsham Road: All tenants rehoused and premises being demolished.

One individual unfit house in Western Road demolished.

One individual unfit house in Pier Road and one part house in South Terrace closed.

On Riverside West: One individual unfit house demolished and one closed.

The following housing statistics are of interest in the development of the town: —

No. of Council Houses existing before the war	...	...	240
No. of Council Houses erected since the war	...	...	508
		Total	748
No. of Private Houses built since 1948	...	...	391

Summary of Council Properties as at 31st Dec., 1958

	Pre-War	Post-War	Total
One bedroom Flats	—	18	18
Two bedroom Flats	—	129	129
Three bedroom Flats	—	18	18
One bedroom Bungalows	6	4	10
Two bedroom Bungalows	15	25	40
Three bedroom Bungalows	—	1	1
Two bedroom Houses	1	77	78
Three bedroom Houses	210	221	431
Four bedroom Houses	5	14	19
Five bedroom Houses	3	1	4
Houses taken over by the Council	—	—	4
Total	240	508	752

Waiting List for Housing Accommodation

Total number of applicants on waiting list for houses at 31st December, 1958	...	197
Total number of applications received during 1958	...	134
Total number of families re-housed during 1958	...	30

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

The number of food premises in the area is as follows:

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Food preparation premises	...	...	...	...	62
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	2
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	11
Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	7
Restaurants and Cafés	...	...	...	...	65
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	98

The number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act is as follows:

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Pies and Sausages	...	...	...	...	14
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	98

The number of Dairies registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations 1949 is eight.

Number of inspections of registered food premises:

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	8
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	90
Dairies	...	...	...	...	216

The food premises registered for Pies and Sausages were also visited many times.

The principal means of educating food handlers has been by the personal visit of the Public Health Inspector during his routine inspection.

Any meat found unfit in a butcher's shop is buried in the Tip in lime.

It has not been necessary to carry out special examinations of any large consignment of food.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Inspections under these Regulations are carried out as frequently as time permits. It is particularly important for a seaside town to maintain a high standard of hygiene.

At the premises visited the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found:—

Accumulation	...	...	...	...	...	2
Choked condition of drains	...	...	...	...	...	3
Additional sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	3
Rooms in need of cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	3
Need for hot water	...	...	...	...	...	6
Need for new sinks	...	...	...	...	...	4
Need for towels, soap and brushes	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective condition of floors	...	...	...	...	...	2
Need for new drains	...	...	...	...	...	1

Ice Cream

There is one manufacturer of Ice Cream in the district and he complies with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1952.

Dairies and Milkshops

At the end of 1958 there were three cowkeepers, all of whom sold their milk wholesale.

There are seven retailers on the register, six resident in the district, and one who sells milk in the district from premises outside.

Two hundred and sixteen inspections were made of dairies during the year when the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Choked condition of sanitary conveniences	...	...	3
Dirty condition of sanitary conveniences	...	...	2
Dirty condition of wash hand basin	...	...	2
Need for soap and towels	...	...	1
Defective condition of floor...	...	...	1
Choked condition of drains	...	...	1

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations

The following licences were granted during 1958 under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

Dealer's licence authorizing the use of the special designation Tuberculin-tested	...	...	...	...	...	7
Dealer's licence authorizing the use of the special designation Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dealer's licence authorizing the use of the special designation sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	2

Clean Milk Production

All milk sold in Littlehampton, with the exception of bottled Tuberculin-tested milk, is Pasteurised or Sterilised.

Steam for sterilising churns, cans, measures, etc., is in use at all Dairies.

One hundred and seventy-four samples of designated milk (151 Pasteurised or Sterilised and 23 Tuberculin-tested) have been sent for bacteriological examinations. All samples satisfied the standard prescribed by the Regulations.

One hundred and seventeen samples of milk were taken during the year for biological examination. All were free from evidence of Bovine Tuberculosis infection, but *Brucella abortus* was isolated in seven cases. Contact was made with the areas where milk was produced so that the necessary preventive action could be taken to render the milk free from infection.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations

There has been no slaughtering in this district since the Government Controlled Slaughtering ceased on March 14th, 1942.

During the year 229 visits were paid to butchers' shops and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need to cleanse refrigerator	...	...	...	...	4
Rooms in need of cleansing	...	...	...	...	2
Defective condition of dustbin	...	...	...	...	2
Need to keep dustbins covered	...	...	...	...	3
Need for redecoration	...	...	...	...	3
Need for cleansing of yard	...	...	...	...	1

The following weights of meat and offal were surrendered as unfit for food:—

620 lbs. Beef.	12½ lbs. Kidney.
42 lbs. Mutton.	82 lbs. Oxtails.
34 lbs. Pork.	10 lbs. Liver.

Food Preparation Premises

During the year 268 visits were paid to food preparation premises and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need for new dustbins	...	...	...	...	8
Need for cleansing of dustbins	...	...	...	...	10
Need to cleanse yard	...	...	...	...	1
Drains in need of cleansing...	...	...	...	...	4
Need for provision of hot and cold water	...	...	...	...	1
Need for provision of sink	...	...	...	...	1
Need for provision of new drain and gully	...	...	...	...	1
Insufficient ventilation	...	...	...	...	1

All premises where food is prepared are periodically visited.

The following were surrendered as unfit for food:—

137 tins fruit.	38½ stone fish.
68 „ meat.	18 pkts. peel.
27 „ ham.	19 pkts. raisins.
22 „ milk.	4,354 lbs. potatoes.
10 „ soup.	14 lbs. shrimps.
3 „ baked beans.	7½ lbs. prawns.
2 „ jam.	1 jar paste.
4 „ carrots.	3 lbs. flour.
10 „ peas.	7 pkts. biscuits.
2 „ coffee.	1 pkt. cereal.
2 „ fish.	1 box cheese.
136 lbs. bacon.	9 cases apricots.
50 lbs. smoked gammons.	10 cases greengages.
14 lbs. ham.	

Restaurants and Cafes

There are at present 65 premises on the register and 154 inspections of these premises have been made.

The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Insufficient ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Need to provide air extractors	...	...	...	...	...	3
Need to cleanse premises	...	...	...	...	...	2
Need to repair sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	2
Need to cleanse sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	4
Need to provide new sink for washing hands	...	...	...	...	...	3
Need to cleanse sink and utensils	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	1
Choked condition of drains	...	...	...	...	...	1
Need to provide new dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	1

Ice Cream Premises

During the year there were 98 premises at which ice cream was prepared, stored or offered for sale, and in connection with these premises 90 inspections were made. No unsatisfactory conditions were found.

Twenty-four samples of ice cream were taken and sent for examination during the year, and the results are given as follows:

No. samples.	Grade.
15	I.
9	II.

Bakehouses

There are two bakehouses in the district, one of which is underground.

Forty-two inspections have been carried out, and the following unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need for cleansing and redecoration of rooms	...	...	3
Need for cleansing of floors...	...	...	2
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	2

Fried Fish Shops

There are four fried fish shops operating in the district at present.

Eight visits have been paid to fried fish shops, and conditions were maintained in a satisfactory manner.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases

	Und. 1 year	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—24	25 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	1	2	10	1	2	—	16
Whooping Cough .	—	5	6	7	—	—	—	18
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Measles	10	120	146	343	17	—	1	637

	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	16	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	18	1	—
Measles	637	12	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality

No person died from Tuberculosis who had not been notified during life.

Age Periods	New cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—

There were no cases of the following diseases, which are also notifiable:—

Cholera	Meningococcal	Food Poisoning
Diphtheria	Infection	Puerperal Pyrexia
Dysentery	Ophthalmia	Relapsing Fever
Encephalitis	Neonatorum	Smallpox
Enteric Fever	Plague	Typhus
Malaria	Pneumonia	
Membranous Croup	Poliomyelitis	

The incidence of Measles was the highest since the disease has been made notifiable. This happened in a year when it was not particularly high in the rest of the country. At the present time, when this disease gets started in a school where there is a high percentage of children who have not had Measles, there is no way of stopping its spread unless one closed the school and isolated the children at home. This is obviously not practical. Individual children, who might suffer severely from the disease, can be protected. Unfortunately, this means of protection is not available on a large scale.

The fact that there were no cases of Poliomyelitis may well be due to the immunisation campaign, but the meteorological conditions during the year did not favour a high number of cases.

The Portsmouth Mobile Mass Radiography Unit visited Littlehampton and 1,773 people were X-rayed. Thirty-four of these were recalled for further investigation. Immediately preceding this visit, secondary school children, aged 13–15 years, were given the opportunity to be skin tested and X-rayed if they were positive or vaccinated with B.C.G. if they were negative.

Upper respiratory infections continue to cause much illness owing to their infectivity and the lack of any effective prophylactic measures. The public is often to blame. People do not isolate themselves until they have spread the disease and not all trap their germs when they sneeze and cough. The Asian type strain of Influenza continued to affect the population in the early part of the year. Its effect on a closed community was vividly illustrated when a preparatory school, which had kept free until after most of the population had been affected, was suddenly infected so that almost every boy and several of the staff succumbed. Thanks to the Public Health Laboratory at Colindale, who examined blood samples from a number of boys, this outbreak was definitely proved to be due to the Influenza virus.

IMMUNISATION

During the year 201 children completed a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria and 58 children received a reinforcing dose.

The last case of Diphtheria to be notified in the district was in 1947.

The following table shows the decline in notifications of Diphtheria and deaths from the disease since the beginning of the century.

	1901-10	1911-20	1921-30	1931-40	1941-50	1951-58
No. cases notified	182	211	89	73	17	0
No. deaths ...	31	10	6	9	0	0

Poliomyelitis immunisation was extended by making it available to the 15-25 year-old age group. The response was poor and comparatively few of this susceptible age group were protected. These young people are very foolish not to take advantage of this free service which will protect them against this terrible disease.

Vaccination against Smallpox and immunisation against Whooping Cough and Tetanus have been carried out by General Practitioners.

METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1958

SUNSHINE AND RAINFALL STATISTICS

Month	SUNSHINE (Hours)		RAINFALL (Inches)	
	1958	Average for 44 years	1958	Average for 44 years
January ...	65.8	65.9	4.55	3.00
February ...	58.3	83.7	2.33	2.13
March ...	126.1	139.6	1.31	1.79
April ...	198.2	178.6	0.58	1.75
May ...	213.6	227.4	2.87	1.79
June ...	193.8	237.8	3.27	1.59
July ...	223.1	221.4	1.49	2.61
August ...	152.5	209.4	4.24	2.37
September ...	161.2	162.2	4.13	2.35
October ...	124.1	123.9	2.73	2.36
November ...	70.1	76.0	2.18	3.28
December ...	39.5	59.0	3.63	3.01
	<u>1626.3</u>	<u>1784.9</u>	<u>33.31</u>	<u>28.03</u>

SUNSHINE

RAINFALL

Years.	No. of hours.	Daily Average.	No. of days on which sun was recorded.	No. of inches.	No. of days on which rain was recorded.
1923	1831.5	5.02	209	30.10	185
1924	1789.5	4.80	307	31.10	153
1925	1915.2	5.25	326	33.30	159
1926	1681.8	4.61	296	28.70	175
1927	1691.4	4.63	312	33.90	190
1928	1945.5	5.32	311	31.50	179
1929	2068.1	5.67	316	30.04	152
1930	1808.1	4.95	319	31.43	183
1931	1633.4	4.48	300	24.42	216
1932	1558.5	4.29	315	27.09	194
1933	2062.8	5.65	318	23.08	155
1934	1758.5	4.82	297	28.09	166
1935	1771.8	4.85	311	36.01	182
1936	1679.9	4.59	304	28.63	182
1937	1691.6	4.63	304	33.51	176
1938	1809.7	4.96	311	24.51	183
1939	1828.9	5.01	203	34.89	211
1940	1876.8	5.12	309	29.46	164
1941	1641.3	4.49	296	25.06	160
1942	1647.9	4.51	294	27.03	137
1943	1818.0	4.97	294	25.21	175
1944	1665.1	4.54	296	23.54	169
1945	1672.2	4.58	301	28.72	173
1946	1692.8	4.63	297	32.11	211
1947	1812.9	4.96	287	26.74	175
1948	1873.5	5.09	299	26.22	137
1949	2041.3	5.59	319	23.83	91
1950	1738.4	4.76	303	27.79	166
1951	1819.2	4.98	294	38.22	190
1952	1864.8	5.09	314	29.02	166
1953	1813.1	4.96	300	22.55	135
1954	1583.0	4.33	292	32.05	177
1955	1903.2	5.22	305	24.39	146
1956	1726.3	4.72	304	24.92	147
1957	1866.9	5.11	306	26.49	150
1958	1626.3	4.46	299	33.31	162

